

What is claimed is:

1. A spacer discharging apparatus of an FED (Field Emission Display) comprising:

- 5 a first resistor connected between an anode electrode of the FED and a high voltage power source unit applying a high voltage to the anode electrode; and
a switch unit connected between the anode electrode and the first resistor, and selectively connecting the anode electrode and a spacer ground electrode of the FED.

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2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switch unit is connected in series between the anode electrode and the spacer ground electrode and turned on/off.

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3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the switch is one of a high voltage relay, a high voltage switch and a thyristor.

4. The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising:
a controller for turning on/off the switch.

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5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the controller comprises:

a detector for detecting a value of a voltage of the anode electrode when the voltage applied to a scan electrode or the anode electrode of the FED is cut off;

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a comparator for comparing the detected voltage value and a

predetermined reference voltage value; and

a transistor driven on the basis of the comparison result.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the switch is turned on when a
5 current flows at the transistor, and the switch is turned off when no current flows at
the transistor.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switch unit comprises:
a switch connected in series between the anode electrode and the spacer
10 ground electrode and turned on/off; and
a second resistor connected in series between the switch and the spacer
ground electrode.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the switch is one of a high
15 voltage relay, a high voltage switch and a thyristor.

9. The apparatus of claim 7, further comprises:
a controller for turning on/off the switch.

20 10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the controller comprises:
a detector for detecting a value of a voltage of the anode electrode when
the voltage applied to a scan electrode or the anode electrode of the FED is cut
off;

a comparator for comparing the detected voltage value and a
25 predetermined reference voltage value; and

a transistor driven on the basis of the comparison result.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the switch is turned on when a current flows at the transistor, and the switch is turned off when no current flows at the transistor.

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12. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the second resistor is maintained at at or below a predetermined voltage.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the predetermined voltage is a
10 voltage at which the spacer is not radiated.

14. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the second resistor is connected between the anode electrode and the switch.

15 15. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the second resistor is connected between the switch and the spacer ground electrode.

16. A spacer discharging method of an FED (Field Emission Display) comprising:

20 a step in which when a voltage applied to a scan electrode of the FED is cut off or a voltage applied to an anode electrode is cut off, a value of the voltage of the anode electrode is measured and a control signal is outputted based upon the measured voltage value; and

a step in which a switch connecting the anode electrode and a spacer
25 ground electrode is on/off according to the control signal to discharge electric

charge charged on a spacer.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the switch is one of a high voltage relay, a high voltage switch and a thyrister.

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18. The method of claim 16, wherein, in the discharging step, the discharge time is controlled according to a resistance value of a resistor connected between the switch and the spacer ground electrode of the FED.

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19. The method of claim 18, wherein, in the discharging step, the voltage applied to the anode electrode is maintained at at or below a predetermined voltage according to the resistance value.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the predetermined voltage is a voltage at which the spacer is not radiated.

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